



Illustration by John H. Rumely,
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

SENECIO EREMOPHILUS* VAR *EREMOPHILUS **DESERT GROUNDSEL**

Desert Groundsel is a short-lived, glabrous perennial with a solitary stem that is 30-120 cm high and arising from a short taproot. The lowest leaves are inconspicuous, while the others are alternate and little reduced upwards. Each leaf has a short petiole and a lance-shaped blade that is 4-15 cm long with deeply lobed and coarsely toothed margins. Numerous flower heads are borne in an open, flat-topped, terminal inflorescence. The heads have a single series of ca. 13 non overlapping, narrow, pointed, minutely black-tipped involucral bracts that are 7-9 mm long. The ca. 40 disk flowers are yellow, and the ca. 8 yellow rays are 6-10 mm long. The achene has a pappus of white bristles at its summit. Flowering in late June.

Distinguished from other tall, leafy-stemmed *SENECIO* by having lobed, coarsely toothed leaves, and a taproot rather than fibrous roots.